University of Wisconsin-Madison
Graduate Faculty Executive Committee
1:30 pm – 3:30 pm, Room 52 Bascom Hall
February 12, 2015

MINUTES

Members Present: Caroline Alexander, Susan Babcock, Duncan Carlsmith, Kristin Eschenfelder, Mary Louise Gomez, Robert Howell, William Karpu (Chair), Daniel Kleinman, Lisa Martin, Nicole Perna, José Pincheira, Patricia Rosenmeyer (not present for first voting item), Tracy Schroepfer, Fernando Tejedo-Herrero, Susan Thibeault, Kirsten Wolf

Members Absent: Cynthia Czajkowski, Michael Graham, Ray Vanderby

Guests: Elaine Klein, Jocelyn Milner, Mark Ready, Susan Zaeske

Staff: Judy Bauman, Marty Gustafson, Kelly Haslam, Michelle Holland, Jennifer Martin, LaRuth McAfee

Dean William Karpu called the meeting to order.

The minutes of December 11, 2015 were approved as a matter of automatic consent.

Information Items:

1. Associate Dean Daniel Kleinman noted that the December 2015 GFEC agenda request to change the academic home for the Freshwater and Marine Sciences M.S./Ph.D. from the College of Engineering to the Department of Zoology in the College of Letters and Science, though not specified in the documentation, included the doctoral minor in Freshwater and Marine Sciences. The GFEC acknowledged and agreed to the logic in ensuring that doctoral minors be in the same academic home as majors of the same name.

2. Assistant Dean Elaine Klein informed the GFEC of recently approved changes to departments in the College of Letters and Science; the following changes have been approved by the University Academic Planning Council (UAPC), have been read into record at the Faculty Senate:

   - The Department of African Languages and Literature will be renamed the Department of African Cultural Studies effective July 1, 2016.
   - The Department of German, the Department of Scandinavian Studies, and the Department of Slavic Languages and Literature will become the Department of German, Nordic, and Slavic (GNS) effective July 1, 2016.
   - The Department of East Asian Languages and Literature and the Department of Languages & Cultures of Asia will become the Department of Asian Languages & Cultures effective July 1, 2016.
   - The School of Music will be renamed the Mead Witter School of Music effective July 1, 2016.
Approvals:

1. Assistant Dean Elaine Klein noted that the department changes as described in the proceeding information item will provide new opportunities and efficiencies for the programs within the departments, and requested the following changes to the academic homes of the following graduate programs in the College of Letters and Science:

- Chinese M.A./Ph.D./Doctoral Minor graduate programs from the Department of East Asian Languages and Literature to the Department of Asian Languages and Cultures.
- Japanese M.A./Ph.D./Doctoral Minor graduate programs from the Department of East Asian Languages and Literature to the Department of Asian Languages and Cultures.
- Languages and Cultures of Asia M.A./Ph.D./Doctoral Minor graduate programs from the Department of Languages and Cultures of Asia to the Department of Asian Languages and Cultures.
- German M.A./Ph.D./Doctoral Minor graduate programs from the Department of German to the Department of German, Nordic and Slavic.
- Scandinavian Studies M.A./Ph.D./Doctoral Minor graduate programs from the Department of Scandinavian Studies to the Department of German, Nordic and Slavic.
- Slavic Languages and Literatures M.A./Ph.D./Doctoral Minor graduate programs from the Department of Slavic Languages and Literature to the Department of German, Nordic and Slavic.

Action: Moved and seconded to approve the Chinese, Japanese and Languages of Cultures of Asia graduate programs changes in academic home to the Department of Asian Languages and Cultures. The motion was passed unanimously.

Action: Moved and seconded to approve the German, Scandinavian Studies, and Slavic Languages and Literatures graduate programs changes in academic home to the Department of German, Nordic and Slavic. The motion was passed with 12 for, 2 abstentions.

2. Associate Dean Daniel Kleinman introduced Mark Ready from the School of Business, who presented the request to discontinue the suspended named option titled Quantitative Finance in the Business: Finance, Investment and Banking M.S. program. In 2012 the named option requested to suspend admissions; there have been no students enrolled in the option since 2013.

Action: Moved and seconded to discontinue the named option titled “Quantitative Finance” in the Business: Finance, Investment and Banking M.S. The motion was passed unanimously.

Program Reviews and Program Review Updates:

1. Associate Dean Daniel Kleinman presented the program review follow-up from the Geological Engineering M.S./Ph.D. degrees, in response to the program’s GFEC review on September 12, 2014. The GFEC asked that Associate Dean Kleinman respond back to the program concerning the GFEC’s continuing interest in the program working to address the original review committee recommendations.

2. GFEC member Kirsten Wolf introduced the Institutional (10-Year) Review of the Art History M.A./Ph.D., Ph.D. named option titled Architectural History and the Graduate/Professional Certificate in Material Culture Studies in the Department of Art History. After discussion of the review committee’s
impressions and recommendations, the committee realized that they had not yet received the Department’s response to the review committee’s recommendations. The GFEC agreed to lay on the table the review until a time in which they have had reviewed the Department’s response to the review committee’s recommendations, and to tentatively take the review off the table as soon as the March 2016 GFEC meeting.

Motion: Moved and seconded to lay on the table the acceptance of the Institutional (10-Year) Review of the M.S./Ph.D., Ph.D. Named Option titled Architectural History and Graduate/Professional Certificate in Material Culture Studies. The motion was passed unanimously.

3. GFEC member Kirsten Wolf introduced the Institutional (10-Year) Review of the graduate programs in French and Italian, including the M.A./Ph.D./doctoral minor in French, the M.A./Ph.D./doctoral minor in Italian, and the MFS in French Studies. Wolf noted the programs’ successes, including the French Studies MFS program’s strength in curriculum, assessment measures and connection to alumni, and the French and Italian graduate programs’ high placement record of students in teaching colleges. Wolf and the GFEC also discussed recommendations, including that the French M.A./Ph.D. and the Italian M.A./Ph.D. programs develop comprehensive, time-stamped graduate program handbooks, continue to work closely with the College of Letters and Science in balancing teaching assistantship appointments loads with hours worked, and that all French, French Studies and Italian graduate programs work to complete and submit their required annual assessment plans to the Office of the Provost by July 1, 2016. The review of the Capstone Certificate in French Studies was not addressed in the review materials, and thus the GFEC did not participate in the required review lifecycle of the low-enrollment French Studies capstone certificate.

Motion: Moved and seconded to accept the Institutional (10-Year) Review of the M.A./Ph.D. in French, the MFS in French Studies, and the M.A./Ph.D. Italian. The motion was passed unanimously.

Discussion Item:
Associate Dean Daniel Kleinman and Vice Provost Jocelyn Milner introduced discussion regarding the UW-Madison policy on low-award producing academic programs. Milner noted that the policy (previously called “low-enrollment” policy) has been in effect for 20 years, and noted that while effective, the University continues to have many low-award producing programs. Milner asked the GFEC to share their thoughts regarding low-award policy; GFEC members acknowledged that perhaps different types of programs merit unique thresholds signaling low-award status (for example allowing doctoral programs to have lower award data, but requiring a higher threshold of awards for certificate programs). Milner reminded the GFEC that there is a significant administrative cost to running low (and no)-award producing programs. The committee averred their commitment to ensure low-award producing programs be more diligently assessed during the ten and five-year program review process.

Adjournment:

Motion: Moved and seconded to adjourn. The motion passed unanimously.